A LETTER
TO A
BOARD OF TRADE.

# COMPARISON

BETWEEN THE

## *British* SUGAR COLONIES

AND

## *NEW ENGLAND,*

As they relate to the INTEREST of

## *GREAT BRITAIN.*

WITH

Some Obſervations on the State of the CASE
of *NEW ENGLAND.*

To which is added

## A LETTER

TO A

## Member of PARLIAMENT.

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# A COMPARISON BETWEEN THE *British* SUGAR COLONIES AND *NEW ENGLAND*, &c.

SINCE it appears evident from the Custom-house Books, from undoubted Evidence offered at the Bar of the House of Commons, and from several Tracts publish'd last Session of Parliament, that the Exports of the woollen, and all other Manufactures of *England* to the *British* Sugar Colonies, are vastly greater than the Exports of the like Manufacture to *New England*: And since it has also appeared plain, from the same Evidences, that the Imports from the *British* Sugar Colonies into *England* are still vastly greater than from *New England*, it will be needless to trouble the Reader with a Repetition of those Proofs, to which he may so easily recur at Pleasure.

My Task shall be of another Kind, and it is a very easy one, to prove, that the Advan-

tage of the *British* Sugar Colonies to *Great Britain* muſt be perpetual, if they are encouraged and protected: But that the preſent Advantage (if there be any ſuch) of *New England* to *Great Britain* muſt, in the Nature of things, decline; and, in all Probability, will, in a few Years, be quite loſt, by the INDEPENDENCY of that Colony on *Great Britain.*

Whoever will caſt an Eye on the Map of *New England* may, at firſt Glance, perceive, that *Great Britain*, compared to it, is but a Mole-hill.

That Colony is a vaſt * Continent, already very populous, and capable of maintaining an infinite Number of Inhabitants more than *Great Britain.* It is ſituated partly in the ſame Climate as *England*, and a great part of it in a much more genial one. Its Soil is, by all Accounts, much more fruitful, productive of all the ſame ſorts of Commodities as *England*, beſides ſome peculiar to its ſelf, ſuch as Peltry, *&c.* plentifully ſtored with all kinds of Timber, and therefore in all reſpects adapted by Nature to be the Rival and Supplantreſs of its Mother Country.

That *New England* has already made ſome Progreſs in this Work, and muſt continue to do ſo, will appear by the following Conſiderations.

* *Vid.* the Caſe of the *Brit. Nor. Col.*

All

All Traders that are acquainted with the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies remember, that a few Years ago, almoſt all the Sugar made there was brought to *England* in *Britiſh* built Ships; now it is as notorious that one Ship in three, which bring that Commodity, are *New England* built, and navigated by *New England* Sailors. From whence it follows, that *New England* has ſupplanted *Britain* in its Navigation to thoſe Colonies one part in three.

That *New England* has ſupplanted *Great Britain* in its Fiſhery, by ſupplying the * Colonies, as well as the *Mediterranean*, appears by their own *State of the Caſe of the* Britiſh *Northern Colonies*, as well as by the remarkable Decay of that Trade at *Pool*, and many other Ports of *Great Britain*, which, by that Loſs, are ſunk into the loweſt State of Poverty.

But, not content with the Fiſhery upon its own Coaſt, (which is a very great one) *New England* has rival'd, and almoſt ſupplanted, *Great Britain* in her Fiſhery at *Newfoundland*. Hence ariſes another Cauſe of our Decreaſe in Navigation, and Diminution in the Ballance of Trade.

In the woollen Manufacture it is confeſs'd, that *New England* has not made the like ſurpriſing Progreſs; nor is it in the Nature of things poſſible, that ſuch an infant Colony can enlarge it ſelf all at once in every reſpect. In

* *Vid.* the Caſe of the *Brit. Nor. Col.*

has

has indeed made ſome Efforts that way (enough to prove its Ability) by the Manufacture of Hats, in which the People of *New England* are capable, and actually have already arrived to a greater Perfection than the *Britiſh* Manufacturers, becauſe they have a great Quantity of * Beaver of their own, and can therefore ſell their Hats at foreign Markets cheaper than the *Engliſh*.

If they make no great Figure as yet in the woollen Manufacture, it is not for want of Materials; for as the Traders from *New England* can, and do export, Sheep in full Fleece, to the Sugar Colonies, for the value of ten Shillings *Sterl.* each; it is manifeſt they have great Plenty of Wool, at a very cheap Price, with which they will ſupply foreign Markets, either manufactured, or unwrought, and muſt therefore in time ſupplant *England* in its grand Staple the woollen Manufacture. The ſame may be truly ſaid of Iron, Lead, Copper, and the like Commodities (which are the Produce of *Great Britain*) of which abundant Stores have been already diſcovered in *New England*. If this be the Caſe, who can doubt that the Inhabitants of that Colony will extend their Trade to *Europe*, *America*, and to all other Parts of the known World? The Effect of this muſt be the Acquiſition of immenſe Wealth; Power

* *Vid.* the Caſe of the *Brit. Nor. Col.*

then

then will follow Property, and that Power muſt be ever employ'd to ſecure and enlarge that Property againſt all Reſtraints.

The Independency therefore of *New England* on *Great Britain*, or any other reſtraining Power, muſt be the Conſequence: A fatal Conſequence to this Kingdom! out of whoſe Hands every Branch of Trade will be wreſted by that Colony, which received its Exiſtence from it. Thus (if I may be allow'd to uſe a *New England* Simile) the Cuckow ſucks the Eggs, and deſtroys the Offspring of that very Bird which hatch'd it firſt into Life.

From theſe, and a Multitude of other Conſiderations that may be offered, the future Independency of *New England* ſeems highly probable: And if the Genius of that People (uneaſy even now under Subjection) was to be taken into the Account, the Probability would appear more eminently.

But ſince a Diſplay of that Point may lead to national Reflections, I ſhall forbear every thing of that kind, however juſt it might be, to treat them as they do other People. This nevertheleſs may be obſerved without great Offence, that a People who have forſaken the eſtabliſh'd Religion of their Country only upon a Diſlike of ſome Ceremonies, will, when Self-intereſt urges, abandon the civil Eſtabliſhment alſo, and ſet up an abſolute Independency, perhaps too, under the pompous Name of *Oceana*.

On

On the other Hand, the Sugar Colonies conſiſt of Iſlands too * ſmall to contain ſuch a Number of Inhabitants as is neceſſary to form an independent Community; but if all the Inhabitants could be ſuppoſed a ſufficient Number for that Purpoſe, yet as the Iſlands lie at a vaſt Diſtance from each other, a Combination, and conſequently an Independency, is abſolutely impracticable. Whatever Advantage therefore is derived to *Great Britain*, from the Sugar Colonies, muſt be perpetual, if they are ſupported and protected.

Nor can the Sugar Colonies ever ſupplant *Great Britain* in any Branch of its Trade, ſince the Produce and Manufactures of the former are of a quite different kind from the Product of the latter, and *England* it ſelf the ſole Mart of their Sugar, and Centre of all their Riches.

Since then it appears from undoubted Evidences mention'd in the Beginning of this Tract, as well as from the foregoing Arguments drawn from the Nature of things, that the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies are a plentiful, and muſt continue to be (if encouraged) a perpetual Fountain of Wealth to *Great Britain*, and that *New England* is ſo far from being a preſent Advantage to *Britain*, in any Degree like that deriv'd from the Sugar Colonies, that, on the contrary, ſhe is already

* *Vid.* the Caſe of the *Brit. Nor. Col.*

the Rival and Supplantreſs of her Mother Country in * Navigation and the Fiſhery, and in time will be ſo, in all Probability, both in the woollen Manufactures and in every other valuable Branch of Trade. Since, I ſay, this plainly appears to be the Caſe, can it be good Policy, nay, is it Juſtice, to favour *New England*, by indulging her in a Trade with the *French*, which muſt be the Ruin of the Sugar Colonies? or would it not be more ſuitable to the Wiſdom of a *Britiſh* Parliament to cheriſh and encourage the Sugar Colonies, even tho' ſuch Encouragement ſhould prove ſome Diſadvantage to *New England*? For as the Conſtitution of human Affairs is ſuch, that the wiſeſt Legiſlators could never frame a Law for the publick Good, without interfering, or thwarting, in ſome degree, the private Intereſt of ſome Individuals, ſo it is to be hoped the *Britiſh* Legiſlature will never think the private Advantage of a few Diſtillers in *New England* is to be put in Competition with the Good of the Sugar Colonies, upon which depends the beſt Branch of Trade belonging to *Great Britain*.

That this is in truth the Caſe between the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies and *New England*, and that the Oppoſition given by the latter to a Bill depending in Parliament for

* *Vid.* the Caſe of the *Brit. Nor. Col.*

the Encouragement of the former, has no better Foundation, will appear farther in the following Pages, where all the material Objections, made againſt the ſaid Bill, are fully anſwered.

The grand and moſt material Objection, urged by the *New England* Caſuiſts againſt the abovementioned Bill, is that if the ſaid Bill prohibits *New England* Traders from taking Rum and Melaſſes from the *French* Iſlands, their Trade of Lumber will be ruined, becauſe the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies are not capable of taking off above one *tenth part of the Lumber which *New England* does, and can export.

If this Argument was founded in Truth, it muſt follow, that the *French* Sugar Colonies, to which *New England* carries on the Lumber Trade, are nine parts in ten bigger than the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies; for if the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies cannot take off above one tenth part of the Lumber exported from *New England*, the *French* Colonies muſt take off the other nine parts, and therefore muſt be in the like Proportion bigger; from thence it will alſo follow, that if the *Britiſh* Colonies make one hundred thouſand Hogſheads of Sugar *per Ann.* (as they certainly do) the *French* Sugar Colonies muſt, by that Proportion, make nine hundred thou-

* As by a Witneſs at the Bar of the Houſe of Commons.



ſand

ſand Hogſheads of Sugar: But this is ſuch a monſtrous Abſurdity, and ſo far from Fact, that no one will have the face to own it, however juſtly it follows from the Premiſes laid down by the *New England* Caſuiſts.

The *French* Colonies, to which the *New England* Lumber Trade is carried on, are *Martinico* and *Guardalupa*; for to *Hiſpaniola* it is not pretended to be carried on, becauſe that Iſland being a new Settlement, and abounding with Timber, the Inhabitants make their own Lumber. Theſe two Iſlands (as may be ſeen by the Map) are ſo far from being (as is ſuggeſted) nine times bigger than all the Sugar Colonies, that, in truth, they are not, both together, half ſo big as *Jamaica* alone.

But, for Argument ſake, we will ſuppoſe the *French* Sugar Colonies and *Surinam* (belonging to the *Dutch*) do take off one half of the *New England* Lumber (which, by the way, is more than can be proved) the Deficiency then of the Demand of Lumber, will be one Moiety. Now if it can be proved, that the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies, upon a proper Encouragement, might be improved ſufficiently to make as much more Rum and Sugar as they now do, it will follow, that the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies may take off all the *New England* Lumber.

*Barbadoes*, one of the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies, is allow'd to be at its Perfection, and

perhaps incapable of being farther improv'd ſo as to increaſe its annual Product.

*Antigua* (all People that know it, will acknowledge) is capable of farther Improvement, and may enlarge its Product of Sugar, according to the beſt Computations, at leaſt one fifth part *per Ann.* As to the Product of Rum there, it may certainly be enlarged near one half upon proper Encouragement; for the Rum it now makes is not quite one half of its Product of Sugar, that is to ſay, if *Antigua* makes twenty thouſand Hogſheads of Sugar *per Ann.* its Product of Rum is not quite ten thouſand: But it is evident, from the Experience of *Barbadoes*, that, out of twenty thouſand Hogſheads of Sugar, there ought to be made near fourteen thouſand Hogſheads of Rum; and this Increaſe, both of Sugar and Rum in *Antigua*, would certainly be made if there was proper Encouragement.

*Montſerrat*, *Nevis* and St. *Chriſtophers*, for want of Encouragement, do not make (as may appear by the Cuſtom-houſe Books of each Iſland) one Hogſhead of Rum for three Hogſheads of Sugar: Whereas it is evident, by the Experience of *Barbadoes*, that three Hogſheads of Sugar ought to produce two Hogſheads of Rum, conſequently the Product of Rum in theſe three Iſlands might be, upon proper Encouragement, increaſed to as much more as it now is.

Add to this, the Improvement to be made in thoſe Iſlands, by which the Quantity of Sugar would be increas'd, it will follow ſtill farther, that the Quantity of Rum, which thoſe Iſlands are capable of making, would be above as much more as they now make, and conſequently the Demand for Lumber would be proportionate.

*Jamaica*, the largeſt of all the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies, (nay bigger than all the reſt put together) is yet but in its Infancy, having now as much Land uncultivated as would produce above three times its preſent Product, were it cultivated as it certainly would be, upon proper Encouragement.

If all theſe Particulars relating to the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies be true (and that they are ſo, every unprejudic'd Perſon that knows them will atteſt) then it muſt follow, by the Improvements which may be made in the Leeward Iſlands and *Jamaica*, that the Quantity of Sugar may be increaſed to above one third more, and the Rum above one half more than the preſent Product: Thence it will alſo follow, that the Quantity of Lumber, ſuppoſed to be taken off by the *French* and *Dutch*, would be taken off by the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies, if encouraged to be cultivated to their full Perfection, eſpecially if it be farther obſerv'd (and the Remark is no leſs true than common among the Inhabitants of the Sugar Colonies) that *New Eng-*

*land* Lumber is much ſcarcer and dearer than formerly, and much worſe in kind. The Reaſon given by the Lumber Traders is, that all the Timber along the Coaſts and Rivers of *New England* being cut down, they are now forced to go farther up the Country for Timber, and have by that means the Charge of Land-carriage added to the prime Coſt of Lumber, and therefore the Purchaſers muſt expect to pay dearer for it. But to make up for the Scarcity of Timber, the *New England* Traders have found another Expedient, which is by diminiſhing their Lumber in Goodneſs, in order to increaſe it in Tale. Thus the Quantity of Wood that was taken up in one thouſand of Staves, by dextrous Management, makes near two thouſand of Staves. No wonder then that their Lumber ſhould be worſe in Quality than formerly; and indeed ſo bad it is, that a great part of it is fit for nothing but Fewel, which uſed to be apply'd to the making of Casks for Rum and Sugar.

Whatever Inferences may be drawn from theſe Conſiderations, I ſhall inſiſt only upon this one; that ſince Timber is ſo ſcarce on the Coaſts and Rivers of *New England*, it is probable that the Sugar Colonies will have more reaſon to fear the Want of Lumber from thence, than the People of *New England* can have to fear the Want of Rum for their Fiſhery and *Indian* Trade.

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The Objection therefore, that *New England* will not have Vend for its Lumber, if the Bill for the Encouragement of the Sugar Colonies ſhould paſs into a Law, is groundleſs.

The next material Objection offered againſt the ſaid Bill, is, that as it prohibits the *New England* Traders from taking *French* and *Dutch* Rum, and * Melaſſes to be ſtill'd into Rum for the uſes of their Fiſhery and *Indian* Trade, they muſt ſuffer great Loſs, becauſe the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies cannot ſupply them with ſufficient Quantities for that Purpoſe.

This Objection too wants Truth for its Foundation; for as it appears from the undeniable Evidence of the Cuſtom-houſe Books, that all the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies do produce about one hundred thouſand Hogſheads of Sugar *per Ann.* ſo they ought in Proportion to make about ſeventy thouſand Hogſheads of Rum: A Quantity more than ſufficient to ſupply the *New England* Fiſhery and *Indian* Trade, even according to their own hyperbolical Computation. But the preſent Product of the Sugar Colonies, under all the incumbent Diſadvantages, is more than the *New England* Caſuiſts can prove to be neceſſary for both thoſe Trades, nay, on the contrary, they will have a Proof ſooner than

* *Vid.* the Caſe of the *Brit. Nor. Col.*

deſired,

deſired, that their Fiſhery and *Indian* Trade do not take off one half of the Rum, now actually made in the Sugar Colonies.

What ſeems therefore the true Grounds of this vigorous Oppoſition to the Bill depending in Parliament, for the Encouragement of the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies, is the Apprehenſion, that the *New England* *Diſtillers will loſe the Profit of manufacturing the *French* and *Dutch* Melaſſes into Rum: A Spirit, after all their Contrivance, the moſt pernicious to their own Inhabitants, and reſembles genuine Rum in nothing but Colour; for it wants all the balmy, ſalutary Qualities of the Rum made in the Sugar Colonies, and for that reaſon is rightly call'd by the Name of *Kill-Devil*.

Theſe Diſtillers of *New England* have, like the Craftsmen of *Epheſus*, ſtir'd up all their Fellow Subjects to this Oppoſition, on a Pretence, that they cannot be ſupply'd with this favourite Liquor by any other means than by their Occupation: But the contrary of this has been fully proved, and therefore need not again be repeated.

The People of *New England* are aiming at the Ruin of the Sugar Colonies, only for the Lucre of manufacturing their kind of Product, brought from the *French* and *Dutch*. For the ſame reaſon they will aim at the De-

* *Vid.* the Caſe of the *Brit. Nor. Col.*

ſtruction

ſtruction of *England*, that they may have the Advantage of manufacturing Wool, and monopolizing every Branch of her Trade. But ſurely the Profit of one Set of Subjects, ariſing from an Encroachment upon another, can never be a good Reaſon for eſtabliſhing ſuch an Encroachment. No, 'tis not doubted but the Wiſdom of a *Britiſh* Parliament will aboliſh a Trade ſo deſtructive to our own Colonies, and at the ſame time conducive to the Advancement of the Power and Wealth of *France*.

The laſt material Objection made by the People of *New England* againſt the Bill for the Encouragement of the Sugar Colonies, is, that as it prohibits the Importation of *French* and *Dutch* Rum, and Melaſſes into *New England**; they muſt be forced to go to the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies, and no other Market, for thoſe Commodities, and therefore the ſaid Colonies, like all other Monopolies, will exact an unreaſonable Price for their Produce.

If the Caſe was juſt as the Objection intimates, the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies would be only upon a Level with *New England*; for as that Place is the only Market, from whence Lumber is imported to the Sugar Colonies, *New England*, by a Parity of Reaſon, is a Monopoly of the Lumber Trade, and there-

* *Vid.* the Caſe of the *Brit. Nor. Col.*

fore does exact an unreaſonable Price for its Lumber.

But this is not, nor ever can be the Truth of the Caſe, either with regard to *New England* or the Sugar Colonies; for as in a Place of ſuch Extent as *New England* is, where the Lumber Trade is carry'd on by a Multitude of People, with a View to each Trader's ſeparate Intereſt, a Monopoly of Lumber cannot probably be made: So in the Sugar Colonies, that lie at a vaſt Diſtance from each other, and are Rivals to each other by the Production of the ſame Commodities, a Monopoly is impracticable.

The *New England* Traders have no leſs than ſix different *Britiſh* Iſlands to go to for Rum and Melaſſes. Each of thoſe Iſlands is as independent upon the other in its Polity as diſtant in Situation. There is little or no Intercourſe, and leſs Commerce, between thoſe of them which are ſituated the neareſt to the others, and no Intercourſe at all between the remoteſt of thoſe Iſlands, becauſe the Produce of them all being the ſame; there can be no Exchange of Commodities, and conſequently no Commerce or Intercourſe. It follows therefore, where there is no Intercourſe, there can be no Combination, no Monopoly. On the contrary (as has been obſerved) each Iſland is a Rival to its Neighbour, producing the ſame Commodity, and will, in common Prudence, uſe all

proper

proper means to have its full Share of Trade, to which end nothing can be more conducive than to ſell its Produce at the cheapeſt rate imaginable.

From the foregoing Conſiderations it is very plain, that the Objections made by the *New England* People againſt the Bill for the Encouragement of the Sugar Colonies are of no Weight at all.

There being no more Arguments offered by the *New England* People worthy a Reply, it is time now to give them a ſhort Hearing of their Rhetorick in Praiſe of their Trade and of themſelves, and in Diſparagement of their Fellow Subjects of the Sugar Colonies.

They aſſert very roundly, that their Trade with the *French* and *Dutch* brings them in return Money and Silver, which they bring to *Great Britain*, and lay out for Manufactures.

That there is no Money among the *French* and *Dutch* Sugar Colonies, is as evident a truth, as that there are no Gold or Diamond Mines in *New England*; how therefore they can bring Money from Places where there is not enough for the common Uſes of Life among the Inhabitants, is a Paradox which they muſt explain, before the World will take it upon their Word.

If then that Aſſertion be not founded in Truth, it follows that they do not lay out Money brought from thoſe Places in the

Manufactures of *Great Britain*. Their Traffick for Fiſh in the *Streights* (a Trade in which they have ſupplanted *Great Britain*) may furniſh them with Money, but I deny that ſuch Money is laid out by them in the Manufactures of *Great Britain*. On the contrary it is to be preſumed, that their Money is laid out with the *French* and *Dutch* in *Europe* for *Eaſt-India* Goods, *French* Silks, and other foreign Commodities; for as it appeared by their own Evidence at the Bar of the Houſe of Commons, that they import ſuch Wares into *New England*, we muſt ſuppoſe they pay for them in Money or Fiſh, till they can prove that Lumber is a valuable Commodity in *France* and *Holland*.

But ſuppoſing the *New England* People do lay out their Product of Fiſh in *Britiſh* Manufactures; is that a ſufficient Compenſation to *Great Britain* for robbing her of the Fiſh Trade to the *Streights*? Does not the *New England* People, by their Confeſſion, acknowledge by Implication, that they reap the Profit, both in the Navigation and Trade, up the *Streights*, which us'd to be enjoy'd by *Great Britain* it ſelf? What Advantage is it to *Britain* to have this Money laid out in her Manufactures? Would it not be a far greater, to be the Carrier of theſe Manufactures to the *Streights*, and to bring home this Money in her own Ships, navigated by her own Sailors? No doubt all this is true, and there-

fore

fore the *New England* People deprive *Britain* of theſe great Advantages, and boaſt the Favour they do to their Mother Country by making her the Channel, thro' which they derive Wealth to themſelves. *Britain* in this receives juſt the ſame Advantage, as that Country would do, thro' which a rapid River paſſes, only to waſh away its Soil, and Fertility.

Let us now obſerve their Encomium on their own great Qualities and Induſtry, and how far preferable they are, to their Fellow-ſubjects of the Sugar Colonies.

It is confeſs'd by the beſt Authors that Panegyrick is the moſt difficult Task in the World.

If the Praiſe of another be a matter of ſuch Difficulty, how inſuperable muſt the Labour be to praiſe one's ſelf with a good Grace?

Whether the *New England* People have ſucceeded well in this Enterprize, may appear by the Method they have taken to exalt their own great Induſtry, and Parſimony, by aſſerting that their Fellow-ſubjects of the Sugar Colonies are a moſt luxurious, profuſe People. Thus it often happens among ſome Orders of People on the Banks of the River *Thames*; that to exalt their own Virtue, they tell the World their Neighbours are —— no better than they ſhould be.

That the *New England* People may be induſtri-

industrious and parsimonious too, is I believe very true; for if you will take their own words for it, they are very poor, and can't be otherwise: But it is a Virtue to be very frugal, when a Man has no Money to spend? —— Perhaps it is a *New England* Virtue.

The Inhabitants of the Sugar Colonies, 'tis said, are very rich and very luxurious. That the Product of the Colonies is of the richest Sort, and is a Mine to *Great Britain*, is allowed, and has been fully proved; but that the Proprietors of the Soil and Manufactures are far from being rich, is evident from the Proofs already made to the Parliament, that they do not clear five Shillings for every hundred Pounds weight of Sugar they make.

This the *New England* Traders would think but a moderate Profit upon one of their short Voyages: But it is too much for an Inhabitant of the Sugar Colonies, who runs infinite more risque in the heat of the torrid Zone; does the Duty and is liable to all the Hazards of a Camp, in time of War; and in time of Peace, lives the most careful Life of any of the Inhabitants under the Sun. That this is truly the Case of the Planter in the Sugar Colonies, all Mankind that are well acquainted with them will attest: but it may be evinced, from the Nature of a *West-India* Estate itself, which is subject to Ruin by the *French*; to Fire from the combustible

Nature

Nature of the Sugar Canes, which are its Product; from the vaſt Buildings and Materials for making Sugar and Rum; from the like Expence in Negroes, Cattle, and Mules; from the riſque of Mortality in this part of the Property, which is always half the Value of a well-ſettled Plantation; and laſtly the Expence of feeding; the Care, Anxiety, and prudent Conduct of governing two or three hundred Negroes with ſtrict Juſtice and Humanity, and with Advantage to himſelf, is the Station of a Planter: And is not this a Station that requires as much Fortitude, Induſtry, and Oeconomy, as catching Fiſh, or buying Skins from the *Indians* of *New-England?* In ſhort, without a good Share of all the Qualifications neceſſary to Conduct an Affair the moſt complicated in its Nature, ſurrounded with Difficulties and Hazards; and in which the niceſt Oeconomy and Order muſt be obſerved, it is impoſſible a Planter can reap any Profit from his Eſtate. Therefore if Planters are rich, they muſt be the beſt Oeconomiſts and the moſt induſtrious Men in the World.

But let us hear what all Gentlemen that have travelled to the Sugar Colonies, and to *New England*, will ſay of the Inhabitants of both. To them let the Appeal be made, as being impartial Obſervers of a Country, to which they are attached by no prejudice of Education. It will appear by their Teſtimony,

mony, that the Inhabitants of the Sugar Colonies are a polite People, being generally educated in *England*, in the beſt manner. And if Virtue and Morality be the Reſult of a good Education, they are as well entitled to both, as the Subjects of *England*; and more than the People of *New England*, who are educated in their own mean Seminaries.

To all impartial Strangers I appeal, whether the Inhabitants of the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies are not the moſt benevolent, hoſpitable People in the World; and whether every Stranger, and eſpecially *Engliſhmen*, be not received there with ſingular regard? On the contrary let them ſay whether the Inhabitants of *New-England*, and eſpecially of *Boſton*, do not always expreſs a *Jewiſh* Antipathy to Strangers; even to their Fellow-ſubjects of *England*, and the Sugar Colonies, whom they call by the invidious Name of Foreigners, and indeed treat them accordingly.

But perhaps Hoſpitality is not in the *New-England* Catalogue of Virtues; but ſtands for a Vice, and goes by the Name of Luxury or Profuſeneſs. —— This Miſtake of Hoſpitality for that Vice, was perhaps the Reaſon why the *New England* People thought it applicable to the Inhabitants of the Sugar Colonies.

But let their Sentiments be as they may, all wiſe Men will infer from the Obſervation,

on of ſocial Virtues in a Colony, that private Virtues of all Kinds, muſt abound there too: and every Legiſlature will cheriſh and encourage ſuch a People, as being the beſt of Subjects.

Thus far the moſt plauſible Reaſons offered by the *New England* People in their Caſe, have been conſidered; and 'tis preſumed fully confuted: but as there are ſome Reaſons of the like Kind, publiſh'd in the Caſe of *Rhoad Iſland* &c. it will not be improper to give them alſo a ſhort Anſwer.

In the caſe of *Rhoad Iſland* there is a Calculate made of the Import of Sugar from *Barbadoes* to *Great Britain* amounting in the Year 1730. to 22,769 Hogſheads, valued at 340, 396. *l.* An immenſe net Profit (ſays the Author) for ſuch a ſmall Iſland, and therefore the *Barbadians* have no Reaſon to complain *&c.* The Reaſon this Author gives for thinking all that Sum to be net Profit is becauſe it was averr'd by a Witneſs at the Committee of the Houſe of Commons, That the Rum and Melaſſes of a Sugar-Plantation bears the Charges of it; and therefore all the Sugar is net Profit.

This I dare ſay is Truth; and came from no prevaricating Witneſs, if it be taken in the explicit, and proper Senſe: that is to ſay, if Rum and Melaſſes bears a reaſonable Price, then a Plantation may with the niceſt Oeconomy pay its own Charges out of that Product:

but if *New England* Traders take Rum from Foreigners, and Melaſſes to be diſtill'd into Rum by themſelves; then the Rum and Melaſſes will be ſo far from bearing ſuch a Charge, that on the contrary they will bear no Charge at all; but the Melaſſes muſt be given to Hogs as the *French* uſed to do, till *New England* taught them how to make a better Profit of it. Have not then the *Barbadians* reaſon to complain?

By the Aſſiſtance of the *New England* Traders the *French* now have that great Advantage, and the *French* Plantations are encreaſed above one third in the annual Value, purely by that pernicious Trade. This Encreaſe to Foreigners is a proportionable Diminution of our own Sugar Colonies, and conſequently a Diſadvantage to *Great Britain.*

But is the Product of that little Iſland *Barbadoes* no leſs than 340, 396. *l.* brought into the Ports of *Great Britain* in one Year? What then muſt be the net Product of all the Sugar Colonies?——an immenſe Sum no doubt. And is this all brought into the Ports of *Great Britain?* What a Fountain of Treaſure muſt this be to the Kingdom, even by the Confeſſion of the Enemies to our *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies! Do therefore the *New England* Traders imagine that the Parliament of *Great Britain* will ſacrifice this immenſe Treaſure to the Advantage of a few

few *New England* Diſtillers? Or if it was a Diſadvantage to all *New England* (from whence *Great Britain* derives no Advantage in compariſon of that) would it not be juſt Policy to ſupport the Sugar Colonies? But when the preſent Oppoſition is conſider'd as founded on a Trade with the *French*, the natural and implacable Enemies of this Kingdom; what honeſt *Engliſhman* can look upon it without Diſdain? eſpecially after it has appeared evident from Reaſon, from undoubted Teſtimony, and even by the implicit Confeſſion of the *New England* People concerned in this Oppoſition, that the *French* have encreaſed one third *per Annum* in their Wealth, by this very Trade. That our Sugar Colonies have declined in Proportion has been proved already; and to compleat the Misfortune, the *New England* Traders have drain'd even the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies of all their current Caſh, for no other Purpoſe but to purchaſe Melaſſes and Rum of the *French*. This is a Fact known by all the Inhabitants of the Sugar Colonies, ſome of which are now in *London* ready to prove it in the moſt ſolemn Manner.

But after all, ſay theſe Oppoſers of the Bill for the Encouragement of the Sugar Colonies: If *New England* does not ſupply the *French* with Lumber and Horſes, they will ſupply themſelves from their own Northern Colonies.

Let them do ſo if they can, it will coſt them dear, and in ſome meaſure prevent or at leaſt poſtpone the Ruin of our Sugar Colonies: for every Body that knows thoſe Parts of the World, can determine what a long expenſive Voyage it will be from the *French* Northern and Weſtern Colonies to their Sugar Iſlands; and therefore their Lumber muſt come ſo dear, that they will chuſe rather to make their own Lumber out of hard Wood of their own Growth, as they did formerly, till *New England* ſupply'd them in a better Manner. This very Expedient would put a conſiderable Stop to the Growth of the *French* Sugar Colonies, becauſe it would employ one quarter Part of their Labourers, now employ'd in the Sugar Manufacture.

It has been before proved that *New England* may ſtill carry on its Lumber Trade to as good Effect to our *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies: but as that Country is open'd the Lumber Trade muſt in time decreaſe to the great Diſadvantage of the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies. But ſuppoſing this Prohibition of the *French* Trade for Lumber ſhould occaſion ſome Decline of it at preſent, cannot the induſtrious *New England* People turn their Hands to nothing elſe? Cannot that People purſue Agriculture in order to ſupply the Sugar Iſlands with all kinds of Corn, ſo as to make it unneceſſary to raiſe it of their own Growth? By ſuch a Purſuit the *Britiſh* Manufacture of Wool would

would be in leſs Danger of being transferr'd to them. Can't they plant Hemp and Flax to make Cordage and Sail Cloth, both for their own Navigation and that of *Great Britain*; and by that means take off the Neceſſity of our trading with Foreigners for thoſe Commodities?

This I apprehend would be an honeſt Method of acquiring Wealth to themſelves, and of being a uſeful Colony to *Great Britain* and to its Siſter Colonies. But nothing leſs will ſatisfie this unnatural Daughter, than the ſupplanting her Mother-Country in Navigation and Trade; and ſubverting her Siſter Colonies, by a Trade with our natural Enemies the *French*.

That all theſe Conſequences will follow from the preſent Bent of the People of *New England*, unleſs a Parliamentary Interpoſition prevents it, has been made plain in the foregoing Pages: And it may be as eaſily proved, that in caſe the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies ſhould fail, and a War with *France* happen, that *New England* itſelf would loſe all their *Indian* Trade and Fiſhery for want of a ſufficient Supply of Rum and Melaſſes; and that therefore the preſent Oppoſition to the Bill for the Encouragement of the *Britiſh* Sugar Colonies, is abſolutely inconſiſtent with the Intereſt of *New England* for the future, and at preſent to the irreparable Damage of *Great Britain*.

A

# LETTER

TO A

## Member of the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*SIR,*

AS the Bill for encouraging our Sugar Colonies, which is now before You, is certainly of very great Conſequence, and the Sentiments of ſeveral Gentlemen are widely different in regard to it; and as a great many Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons have never had the Neceſſity or Opportunity of acquainting themſelves with Trade and Navigation, and ſome others that are acquainted with Trade in general, yet may not be ſo well acquainted with the particular Branches of Trade that muſt be affected by this Bill, as I am who have reſided in the *Weſt Indies* and the *Northern Colonies*, and have, by a long Experience, acquainted my ſelf with the Nature and Importance of the Trade of thoſe parts, therefore have now to beg (as I ſtill trade to theſe Places, ſo that it could not be proper for me to appear for either Party at the Bar of your Houſe)



that

that you will allow me to give you my Sentiments thereon. I know a Notion has already prevail'd too far, that this Bill is only calculated to inhance the Price of Sugar, and conſequently Gentlemens Eſtates in the *Weſt Indies*: Indeed it may, in ſome meaſure, do this, and this is very neceſſary; but this is far from being the only Advantage this Bill propoſes; and, with leave, I will lay before you ſome of a more publick Nature that muſt be the Conſequence of this Bill, and then I will leave you to judge of the Reaſonableneſs or Unreaſonableſs of it. This Bill propoſes to enable the Subjects of *Great Britain* to recover what they have lately loſt, *viz.* the ſupplying foreign Markets with Sugar, which is now wholly engroſs'd by the *French*, our Rivals, to the vaſt Prejudice of the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom, and almoſt to the Deſtruction of our Sugar Colonies, that have been ſo prodigiouſly advantagious to the Trade, Navigation and Revenue of this Kingdom, and thereby to retrieve our Sugar Colonies from that languiſhing Condition they are at preſent reduc'd to, and prevent that Deſtruction that ſeems to threaten them. Now the Method propoſed in this Bill to effect this good End, is to prevent the Subjects of *Great Britain* (reſiding in our Northern Colonies) from taking from the *French* their Rum and Melaſſes, which they can no where have any other vent for, notwith-

notwithſtanding all the ſuperficial Pretences that have been made to the contrary, which I ſhall take notice of preſently, after I have premis'd, that this is giving the *French* at leaſt twenty five *per Cent.* upon the whole Produce of their Sugar Colonies, and thereby enabling them to afford their Sugar (by the other Advantages they have over us) at foreign Markets, cheaper than our own Sugar Colonies can. It is finding them with Plantation Neceſſaries, and finding them Money to pay for them, *viz.* their Melaſſes and Rum, which otherwiſe they muſt throw away as formerly; and could they be ſupply'd with Lumber from any of their own Settlements, (which, I ſay, they cannot at three times the Price they now have it) yet it would anſwer the End; for they muſt pay for ſuch Supplies in Caſh or Sugar, to the very great Inhancement of the Price of their Sugar which they ſend to *Europe.* Pray let me give you a fit Compariſon, which is, let the Brewers throw away their Small-beer, their Grains and their Barm, pray how would that affect the Price of ſtrong Beer and Ale? And this is the very caſe with the *French* Sugar Colonies; they have not, nor can have any Demand for it but from our Northern Colonies.

But let us ſee where the Adverſaries of this Bill finds them a Vent for it; they ſay they will diſtil it into Rum, and ſend it to Cape *Breton,*

*Breton*, *Quebeck*, and other *French* Settlements; but I do tell you, Sir, that the making and importing of Rum is prohibited in all the *French* Northern Colonies in the ſtricteſt manner, in favour of *French* Brandy, which they are abundantly ſupply'd with, and ſo cheap, that they have no Neceſſity for Rum, nor can it be ſuppoſed that the *French* will ever allow it to be imported into theſe Colonies. We may as well ſuppoſe that this Kingdom will leave the ſole Supply of foreign Markets, with woollen Manufactures, to *Ireland*.

Again, they ſay that the *Engliſh Weſt India* Iſlands is not able to ſupply Rum for the Uſe of all our Northern Colonies, that is, for their own Conſumption, their Fiſhery and their *Indian* Trade: Their own Conſumption, they ſay, is great, particularly in Harveſt. Alas! what can it be for a Fortnight, or ſay a Month, and then it's no more neceſſary in Harveſt there than here; for all over the Continent where I have been, and where there is any Harveſt they have good Beer, as cheap, both ſmall and ſtrong, nay cheaper than we of this Kingdom, they paying none of the great Duties on Malt and Beer as we do; nay they have it ſo plenty, that they ſend large Quantities of ſtrong Beer to the *Weſt Indies*, which they can do cheaper than we can from hence, by being exempted from the Duty of Malt and Beer, as I ſaid. Beſides they abound with Cyder. Then pray

judge of the great Conſumption there muſt be of Rum, or the Neceſſity there muſt be for ſuch Quantities in ſuch a Country.

Next is, the great Quantities they inſiſt on, neceſſary to carry on their *Indian* Trade: Now, during the time I reſided among them, I never found more Rum neceſſary, than a ſmall Quantity to treat them with when they come to trade, or perhaps to ſell them while they ſtay and trade, but I never could learn that they ever bought and carry'd away any; and I believe Brandy and Rum, or Malt Spirits are equally acceptable to them; however a ſmall matter ſerves their turn. The Goods they chiefly trade for, are Blankets, Strouds, Duffils, *&c.* as it is plain from what a Gentleman told you that had reſided a great while at *South Carolina*, that they traded with eight thouſand *Indians*, and yet nine hundred Hogſheads of Rum was the moſt they ever imported in one Year, both to ſupply their Home Conſumption, all their Trade with theſe eight thouſand *Indians*, and to trade to other Ports with; and yet this is a Colony that is the hotteſt, has the largeſt Harveſt of Rice, *&c.* and not ſupplied ſo well with Beer, *&c.* as the other Northern Colonies are.

So let us allow this Colony of *South Carolina* theſe nine hundred Hogſheads, *North Carolina* one thouſand Hogſheads, *Virginia* and *Maryland* three thouſand Hogſheads,

*New*

*New York* and *Philadelphia* four thouſand Hogſheads, *Rhode* Iſland and *New England* ten thouſand Hogſheads, which Calculation, both by their reſpective Cuſtom-houſe Accounts, and by the largeſt Eſtimates that ever has been made, are too large, and yet the whole amounts but to eighteen thouſand nine hundred Hogſheads. I know you have been told, that all our Sugar Colonies could not ſupply them with Rum; nay, one of their People that never ſaw the *Weſt Indies* (or knew any thing of the Sugar Colonies) told you that our Colonies could not ſupply them with one fifth; now it is plain, that both the *French* and the *Dutch* don't make near ſo much as we do; but admit they did, and thoſe Northern Colonies had all that was made by them and ourſelves, all would but ſupply two fifths. God knows what they muſt do for the other three fifths. I think you was told by the ſame Perſon, that fifteen thouſand Fiſhermen were employed in the *New England* Fiſhery, and another Gentleman who laſt Year told you, that the Fiſhery conſiſted of ten thouſand, this Year told you that it conſiſted of one hundred and fifty thouſand; I do aſſure you all theſe, and other things you have heard, are equally true.

Since which you have had a particular Calculation of the Number of Veſſels and Men employ'd in that ſaid Fiſhery, and I aſſure you, even that Calculation is too large,

in the whole not leſs than five hundred Men; for he allows ſix Men to every Shallop, and five is generally their Compliment; and yet that Calculation makes but ſix hundred and ſixty Shallops, beſides ſmall Boats, and four thouſand, four hundred and ſixty Men.

The ſame Perſon told you, that the *Engliſh* Sugar Colonies, under their preſent Improvement, did make forty thouſand Hogſheads of Rum *per Annum*, and could make (had they Demand for it) about fifty five thouſand Hogſheads *per Annum*, beſides what thoſe large Tracts of uncultivated Land would produce, ſhould they have Encouragement to ſettle, that are in the Leeward Iſlands and *Jamaica*.

You were alſo told, that the *New England* People, thus taking from the *French* their Melaſſes, Rum and Sugar, and ſupplying all the other Northern Colonies, as well as *Newfoundland*, *Great Britain*, *Ireland* and *Africa* with large Quantities thereof, was a very great Hurt to the Revenue; for if theſe Places were not thus ſupply'd, they muſt be ſupplied from our own Sugar Colonies, then every thouſand Pound Value of Rum or Melaſſes, of our own Growth, muſt pay His Majeſty a Duty of forty five Pounds, and every thouſand Pound Value of Sugar, a Duty of one hundred and twenty Pounds. He might have added, at the ſame time, that it was likewiſe a great Hurt to the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom, as well as

to the Sugar Colonies; that we cannot ſupply thoſe Places with Rum, Sugar and Melaſſes of our own Growth, and in Ships and Veſſels of this Kingdom, without the Diſadvantage of paying for our Rum and Melaſſes a Duty of four and a half *per Cent.* and for our Sugar a Duty of twelve *per Cent.* when *New England* can ſupply all the Markets with Rum, Sugar and Melaſſes of foreign Growth, without paying any of theſe Duties. Pray what Advantage muſt this be in Trade? Undoubtedly was it not for this Advantage they have over us, a great many of our Veſſels that miſs a Freight of Sugar in the *Weſt Indies* for *London*, would take ſome Rum, Melaſſes and Sugar, and go to *Newfoundland*, and barter it for Fiſh or Oil, and then proceed to ſome other Market with it, and might probably employ themſelves to Advantage, or might with a little Rum, Sugar and Melaſſes, go to *North Carolina*, &c. and barter for a Cargoe of Pitch, Tar and Skins and bring to *Great Britain*; but here likewiſe we are rival'd by the *New England* People, and muſt be; for we have no Place allow'd us to carry foreign Melaſſes to, without paying Duty, and then of diſtilling them into Rum, without paying Exciſe, and it is a Paradox to me that they ſhould, to the infinite Damage of ſo many of his Majeſty's good Subjects, and to the vaſt Prejudice of the Publick.

They tell you likewiſe that they cannot

get

get Rum *&c.* for their Lumber in our Sugar Colonies, at any reasonable rate; neither can they get a Price for their Lumber: ever since I knew the *English* Sugar Colonies, the Price of both Rum and Lumber hath been govern'd by the Crops; when the Crops are large the Lumber must be dear, and Rum cheap; on the other Hand when the Crops are small, Lumber must be cheap, and Rum dear; (this is the Case every where.) You was told that in *Barbadoes* in the Year 1716, Rum was sold for nineteen Pence *per* Gallon, and the Year 1724, Rum was sold at ten Pence half Penny *per* Gallon; tho' at the same time the Person told you, that he would not be understood to think that Rum was fallen so much since that Time; but the Price was greater or less as the Crops were so.

As for their telling you, that they cannot get Rum *&c.* at our Islands; and therefore are forced to go down to the *French*. Not one Vessel in ten that goes to the *French* ever touches at our Sugar Colonies first; (as they pretend) and if one of them by chance touches at *Barbadoes*, it is either to learn if there is a Possibility of Liberty to trade to the *French* Islands, or for some other end; and not to sell her Cargoe. But as I said before, not one in ten that designs for the *French* Islands, but goes directly thither.

And as for their saying that our Sugar Colonies won't let them have Rum for their Lumber; more than half, nay two thirds of

the Lumber that is carried there, is carried in Ships that go from *New England*, in order to load Sugar there for *London*: and not any of these Ships will sell their Lumber for Rum or Melasses, if they can get either Sugar, Money, or Cotton for it: For the Planters always strive to buy their Lumber with their Rum, and Melasses: I have known several Disputes, the Planters insisting on their taking Rum for their Lumber; and the *New England* Men insisting on Sugar. A great Quantity of *New England* Ships go to the *West-Indies* after this manner every Year (to the vast prejudice of the Ships of this Kingdom) and load Sugars for *London*; receive their Freight for the said Sugars to help them to pay the Ballance of Trade, they talk so much of; and then return home, where they are paid off, and refitted; and this Kingdom hath no other Advantage from them, than the Port Charges they pay while here. They tell us likewise that their Fishery and Navigation is a Nursery for Seamen, and a very great Advantage to this Kingdom: For my part, I am of a quite different Opinion; as to their Fishery, that they have ravished from us; it was formerly carried on by the Inhabitants of this Kingdom, and by Vessels built, paid off, and refitted, and victualled in this Kingdom; but now all these Advantages are engross'd by the People of *New England*, and by Ships and Vessels built, paid off, refitted, and victualled there: Besides,

ſides, moſt of the Men employed in this Fiſhery are Seamen of *Great Britain*, that have deſerted his Majeſty's and Merchant Ships of this Kingdom; and are entirely loſt to this Kingdom, in caſe of any Emergency. And their other Navigation, that they ſeem to be at a loſs to provide Buſineſs for. If this Bill ſhould paſs into a Law, pray might they not be as well employ'd in fetching Supplies of Sugar, Rum, and Melaſſes from our own Sugar Colonies, as they are now from the *French*? But were they left deſtitute of an Employ, the more they are obliged to reduce their Navigation, the more they would be capable of ſerving their Mother Country, and anſwer the End for which they were firſt ſettled, encouraged, and protected: For the End and Deſign for which they were ſettled, was, that they ſhould ſupply this Kingdom with ſuch Commodities, as we were obliged to other Nations for, as Naval Stores, Hemp, Pot-aſh, *&c.* in exchange for our own Manufactures; and not to become Rivals in our Trade and Navigation: Not to raviſh from us our Fiſhery, as well as our Seamen to carry it on; and attempt by their Shipping, and by the Advantage they have over us in building, refitting and victualling them, (as they have a long time had all their principal Materials, duty free; as Hemp, Canvas, and Iron) to worm us out of the Freight every where; and probably, in a little time, may become

become the ſole Carriers both of *Europe* and *America*. For as there is ſuch a proportion of Commerce to be carried on in the World, by the Subjects of *Great Britain*; then nothing can be more certain than this, That the more their Navigation encreaſes, ours muſt in proportion decline; then certainly our Artificers, and Seamen muſt follow the Navigation (as they and ſeveral Owners of Veſſels have too much done already:) Then of what Uſe muſt our Navy be to us? What! muſt we ſend to *New England* for Men upon every Emergency? No:

" *For oh! it much imports you, 'tis your all*
" *To keep your Trade intire, intire the Force*
" *And Honour of your Fleets; o'er that to watch*
" *Even with a Hand ſevere and jealous Eye.*

They have alſo told you that ſhould this Bill paſs into a Law, it would encourage the *Weſt-Indians* to monopolize their Rum, *&c.* is not the Caſe the ſame with reſpect to Sugar with *England?* can we be ſupply'd any where elſe? and how do they monopolize that Commodity? or how is it poſſible that any Commodities in the Hands of ſo many People, Inhabitants of ſeveral Iſlands that lye at ſo great a Diſtance, that ſome of them have not any Correſpondence, can monopolize?

beſides the greateſt Number of thoſe People are neceſſitous, and muſt ſell for what they can get, for Subſiſtence and common Neceſſaries: And pray is not the Lumber in *North America* in fewer Hands than the Rum and Melaſſes are, or can be in; then have they not all the Opportunities the Sugar Iſlands can have, of making their own Price *&c.*?

And as for their telling you that the *Weſt India* Iſlands cannot take off their Lumber, we have rather Reaſon to apprehend that they will not be able to ſupply the Sugar Colonies long, at any tolerable Price; for the Price of Lumber riſes every Year. And a little Time ſince I was up in the Country where their Lumber is ſaw'd, and enquired of ſome of the principal Men concern'd in it, of the Reaſon of their Lumber being dearer and ſcarcer every Year, ſeeing they had ſuch Quantities of Timber in the Country; they told me that it would ſtill continue to be dearer and ſcarcer, and they ſhould not long make it worth their while to ſupply the *Weſt-Indies* at any tolerable Price: For the Woods contiguous to the Rivers, on which their Mills ſtand are very much exhauſted; beſides they were confin'd now to the Timber that grew on their own Properties, being more reſtrain'd than ever from cutting the King's Woods; that if they were to be without great Snows, (upon which they draw the Timber down to the

Sides of the Rivers on which their Mills ſtand, and which when it melts floats down the Timber to their Saw-mills) they could by no Means ſupply a tenth of the Lumber they uſually do.—— I could inſiſt on a great many other Particulars, but I have already exceeded the Bounds I preſcribed myſelf at ſetting out, neither will the Time allow me more than to tell you that I have Hopes you will think of this Affair, and determine upon it with that Impartiality which is ſo peculiar to you: And that I am,

*SIR,*

*Your Moſt Obedient,*

*Humble Servant.*

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